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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,332	11/30/2001	Christopher A. Johns	16010-06209	5145

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/006,332

Applicant(s)

JOHNS ET AL.

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 11/28/05.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

1. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toga (US Patent No. 5,987,504) in view of Baker (US Patent No. 6,546,417).

Regarding claim 1, Toga discloses a method for reformatting messages for multiple display environments, the method receiving a message for introduction into the user interface, the message having a second format that differs from the first format such that introduction of the message unmodified would produce a misalignment according to the first display parameter (see col. 3, lines 25-60); and automatically reformatting the message to provide a reformatted message that corresponds with the first format; providing a display of the reformatted message

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within the user interface, wherein the displayed reformatted message conforms to the first display parameter (see col. 4, lines 21-57); however, Toga fails to explicitly teach

Baker discloses determining a visual presentation of a user interface including a message display area having a first format that includes a first display parameter [..email program which includes an inbox list whereby different kinds of messages and attached documents are displayed with different kinds of icons; see col. 4, lines 61-67]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide determining a visual presentation of a user interface including a message display area having a first format that includes a first display parameter as taught by Baker to the message delivering of Toga in order to pertain to a system for delivering data over a network. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to automatically reformat messages to provide a compatibility with the current format of the user interface.

Regarding claim 2, Toga discloses parameter, and the reformatted message conforms to the first display parameter and the second display parameter [ see col. 2, lines 1-9].

Regarding claim 3, Toga discloses, wherein the first format further includes a second display parameter is a maximum number of display lines (see col. 3, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 4, Toga discloses, wherein the first display parameter is a line length and the second receiving the line length and the maximum number of display lines; and re-flowing the message to provide a reformatted message having lines that correspond to the line length (see col. 3, lines 24-60).

Regarding claim 5, Baker discloses wherein re-flowing the message comprises: populating a current reformatted line within the reformatted message with a current line

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from the message; and incrementing to a next reformatted line where insertion of an additional word from the current line would cause the current reformatted line to exceed the line length (see col. 12, lines 45-67).

Regarding claim 6, Toga discloses wherein re-flowing the message further comprises continuing to populate the current reformatted line with a next line from the message where the current line is exhausted before the current reformatted line exceeds the line length (see col. 4, lines 1-21).

Regarding claim 7, Baker discloses wherein re-flowing the message further comprises determining a paragraph break where the current line is exhausted and the current line is less than a predetermined minimum length (see col. 16, lines 29-67).

Regarding claim 8, Baker discloses wherein re-flowing the message further comprises determining a paragraph break where the current line is exhausted and a double line break is found before the next word in the message (see col. 7, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 9, Baker discloses wherein the local system is a network based customer service system and the reformatted message is saved in a database used by the network based customer service system (see col. 9, lines 15-67).

As claim 10-18 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-9 above.

Claim 19 differs from claim 1 in that “an interface determination module, configured to determine provision of a user interface including a message display area having a first format that includes a first display parameter; a message buffer, configured to receive a message for

introduction into the user interface, the message having a second format that differs from the first format such that introduction of the message unmodified would produce a misalignment according to the first display parameter; and a reformatting module, in communication with the interface determining module and the message buffer, configured to automatically reformat the message to provide a reformatted message that corresponds with the first format, for provision of a display of the reformatted message within the user interface, wherein the displayed reformatted message conforms to the first display parameter” which read on Toga (see col. 3, lines 24-60 and col. 6, lines 13-64).

As claim 20-40 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-9 and 19 above.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed on 06/24/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument on page 18 that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Toga discloses visual presentation of a user interface including a message

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used in combination of Baker's generate displayed formatted. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to automatically reformat messages to provide a compatibility with the current displayed formatted of the user interface.

On pages 14-16 of the Remarks; Applicant argues that the combination of Toga and Baker do not teach or suggest "visual presentation of a user interface including message format"; however, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on "Using the delivery method of the present invention offers several advantages. First, the final retrieval of requested data can be accomplished from a site other than the one that is currently requesting the data. In FIG. 2, second client can perform the final retrieval of the requested file File.X from the designated E-mail address instead of client which made the initial request. The requested data may include audio, video, or other types of data that cannot be properly played back or displayed at client 40 (e.g., because of a deficient hardware/software setup). However, most E-mail systems allow access from a number of sites, such as second client, which may be more suitable to the presentation of this so-called "rich" content. Second, the data delivery system of the present invention allows a third party requester to find and deliver the data content to another recipient. Thus, the user at second client can request that the user at client find and deliver specific data." (see Toga col. 5, lines 20-42).

On pages 14-16 of the Remarks; Applicant argues that the combination of Toga and Baker do not teach or suggest "automatically reformatting to generate a reformatted message"; however, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on "The electronic mail software of the present invention is described by example with reference to the email software of my previously incorporated parent application which includes a main email component and a number of

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installable components which communicate bidirectionally with the email component through an application programming interface (API). The installable components include authoring/reading components as well as at least one mailbox displayer component. FIG. 2a illustrates an embodiment of the email software of my previously incorporated parent application which displays an icon indicative of the authoring/reading component associated with the mail message. This embodiment is also capable of receiving email from (and sending email to) prior art email clients. FIG. 2a illustrates a mailbox list where two mail items are shown with two icons, i.e. a paper clip and an ACROBAT icon and a paper clip and a PHOTOSHOP icon. The dual icon display indicates that the mail was created without any special authoring/reading component and has an attachment created by some other program, in this case ACROBAT and PHOTOSHOP. The electronic mail software of the present invention is described by example with reference to the email software of my previously incorporated parent application which includes a main email component and a number of installable components. According to the presently preferred embodiment, a component is also included for maintaining a database of icons. FIG. 3 illustrates the relationship between these components"; see Baker col. 7, lines 18-41.

Accordingly, the claimed invention as represented in the claims does not represent a patentable distinction over the art of record.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior arts made of record and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.111(c) to consider these references fully



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when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach a method and a system for editing, linking, and modifying object icons in a hierarchical structure manner.

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

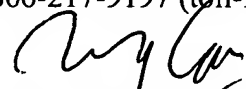
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cao (Kevin) Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2173

09/02/05